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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/537,432	12/19/2005	Fred Klotmann	4442.76044	2668
24978	7590	11/16/2007	EXAMINER	
GREER, BURNS & CRAIN			CHARLES, MARCUS	
300 S WACKER DR			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
25TH FLOOR			3682	
CHICAGO, IL 60606				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
11/16/2007		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/537,432	KLOTMANN ET AL.	
Examiner	Art Unit		
Marcus Charles	3682		

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 June 2005.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 8-27 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) Claim(s) 8-10, 12-12, 15-16 and 19-27 is/are rejected.
7) Claim(s) 11, 14, 17, 18 and 24 is/are objected to.
8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on 02 June 2005 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) .
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 06-02-2006.
4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

This is the first action relating to serial application number 10/537,432 filed 12-19-2005.

Claims 8-27 are currently pending.

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Drawings

2. The examiner has accepted the drawing filed with this application as formal drawing.

Specification

3. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because the first sentence does not provide a concise statement of the technical disclosure of the claimed invention. In addition, the phrase "to this end, the invention provides" is a phrase which can be implied. It is not proper to include this phrase in the abstract. Correction is required.

See MPEP § 608.01(b).

4. Applicant is reminded of the proper content of an abstract of the disclosure.

A patent abstract is a concise statement of the technical disclosure of the patent and should include that which is new in the art to which the invention pertains. If the patent is of a basic nature, the entire technical disclosure may be new in the art, and the abstract should be directed to the entire disclosure. If the patent is in the nature of an improvement in an old apparatus, process, product, or composition, the abstract should include the technical disclosure of the improvement.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

5. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

6. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In claim 10, the phrase "the free flowing material" lacks antecedent basis. It appears that the claim is intended to depend from claim 9. For the purpose of this office action the claims will be treated as if it depends from claim 9.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

7. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

8. Claims 8-10, 12 and 20 and 25-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Jacob et al. (5,087,133). In claims 8 and 20, Jacob et al. disclose a fastening arrangement between a riding ring (2/3) and a casing (1) wherein, the riding ring encircles the casing of the rotary cylinder, the arrangement comprising support elements (15) affixed to the casing and projecting radially outwardly, a plurality of clamping elements ((18-20/29) distributing around the perimeter of the ring and is forced fitted in the circular groove of the ring (col. 5, lines 22-30); the clamping elements being

connected with the support elements (15) wherein the riding ring is immobilized in both the axial and circumference direction relative to the casing of the rotary cylinder.

In claims 9-10, Jacob et al. disclose the cylinder is a rotary drum of a rotary kiln.

In claims 20 and 25-27, Jacob et al. disclose the claimed invention above, including the lateral groove (see 30) in the ring (2/3).

9. Regarding claim 12, the method of forming the device is not germane to the issue of patentability of the device itself. Therefore, this limitation has not been given patentable weight.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

10. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

11. Claims 13, 15-16, 19, 21-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jacob et al. in view of Schoonover (2,702,218). Jacob et al. fails the clamping screw engaged with screw jaws to move the jays into force fitting engagement with a circular groove. Schoonover discloses fastening arrangement between a riding ring and a casing such that the arrangement comprises a riding ring (24) comprising a circular circumferential groove arranged in one of the axial lateral surfaces of the ring, and at least one clamping elements (38) is tensioned by a clamping screw (47) to move the screw jaw into force fitting engagement with the circular groove. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify

the fastening arrangement of Jacob et al. to include the arrangement disclosed by Schoonover in order to allow for quick and easy dismantling of the system.

Allowable Subject Matter

12. Claims 11, 14, 17-18 and 24 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Citation

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Note the prior art cited in attached PTO Form 892.

13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marcus Charles whose telephone number is (571) 272-7101. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 7:30 am to 6:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ridley Richard can be reached on (571) 272-6917. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Marcus Charles
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3682
November 12, 2007